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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

YAMASAKI, K. et al. Atty. Ref.: 4074-2

Serial No. unknown Group:

Filed: December 28, 2001 Examiner:

For: MANAGING METHOD, MANAGING SYSTEM, COMPOSITE APPARATUS, ORDERING APPARATUS, COMPUTER PROGRAM

AND MEMORY PRODUCT

December 28, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each of which is enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

H. Warren Burnam,

HWB:ecb

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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)